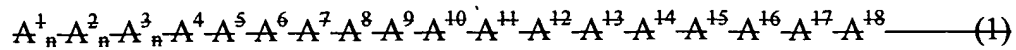


## CLAIMS AMENDMENT

1. (currently amended): A compound of the formula



and acylated and/or amidated forms thereof,

wherein each n is independently 0 or 1;

$A^1$ ,  $A^2$ [[,]] and  $A^3$  are each independently any amino acid;

$A^4$ ,  $A^{12}$ [[,]] and  $A^{17}$  are independently ~~acidic amino acids~~ E, D or Q;

[[ $A^{13}$ ,]]  $A^{14}$ [[,  $A^{15}$ , and  $A^{18}$  are independently]] is an aromatic amino ~~[[acids]]~~ acid;

$A^5$ ,  $A^7$ ,  $A^8$ ,  $A^{11}$ , and  $A^{16}$  ~~represent any amino acid~~;

$A^6$ [[,]] and  $A^9$ [[, and  $A^{10}$ ]] represent independently a basic amino acid or a polar neutral amino acid;

wherein each of said amino acids may be in the L form, racemic form, or D form, with the proviso that

the compound of formula (1) ~~is other than~~ does not comprise

~~A~~A~~E~~E~~L~~L~~E~~E~~A~~A~~K~~K~~I~~I~~C~~C~~H~~H~~Q~~Q~~I~~I~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F ALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF when all amino acids are in the L-form, and

must be in isolated form when all amino acids are in the L-form and formula (1) is of the sequence ~~A~~A~~E~~E~~L~~L~~E~~E~~A~~A~~K~~K~~I~~I~~C~~C~~H~~H~~Q~~Q~~I~~I~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F, ~~A~~A~~E~~E~~L~~L~~E~~E~~A~~A~~K~~K~~I~~I~~C~~C~~H~~H~~Q~~Q~~I~~I~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F, ~~L~~L~~D~~D~~L~~L~~D~~D~~T~~T~~K~~K~~I~~I~~C~~C~~E~~E~~Q~~Q~~I~~I~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F, ~~A~~A~~E~~E~~L~~L~~E~~E~~A~~A~~K~~K~~I~~I~~C~~C~~H~~H~~Q~~Q~~I~~I~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F, ~~D~~D~~A~~A~~D~~D~~Q~~Q~~R~~R~~I~~I~~K~~K~~Q~~Q~~L~~L~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~N~~N~~I~~I, ~~V~~V~~S~~S~~K~~K~~L~~L~~E~~E~~A~~A~~S~~S~~T~~T~~I~~I~~R~~R~~Q~~Q~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~A~~A or ~~Q~~Q~~E~~E~~R~~R~~A~~A~~I~~I~~R~~R~~Q~~Q~~V~~V~~E~~E~~Y~~Y~~F~~F~~G~~G~~D~~D~~F~~F.

2. (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein all amino acids are gene encoded.
3. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein all linkages between  $A^i$ -subunits the amino acids are amide linkages.
4. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein all of [[ $A^i$ ]] the amino acids are in the D form.

5. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein all of ~~[[A<sup>1</sup>]]~~ the amino acids are in the L form.
6. (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein each of A<sup>4</sup>, A<sup>12</sup> and A<sup>17</sup> is independently aspartic or glutamic.
7. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein ~~each of A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>[[, A<sup>15</sup>~~ and A<sup>18</sup>]] is ~~independently~~ phenylalanine or tyrosine.
8. (canceled)
9. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein each of A<sup>6</sup>~~[[,]]~~ and A<sup>9</sup>~~[[and A<sup>10</sup>]]~~ is independently lysine, histidine, arginine, glutamine, or asparagine.
10. (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of AALEAQICQQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:2), AALQAKICHQIQYYFGQF (SEQ ID NO:3), QQQEAKICHQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:4) and AALEAKICHQIEYQFGDF (SEQ ID NO:12).
11. (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 which is in isolated or purified form and is selected from the group consisting of ~~ALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:13), AALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:14),~~ LDLDTKICEQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:15), ~~AALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:16),~~ DDADQRIIKQLEYYFGNI (SEQ ID NO:17), VSKLEASTIRQEYYFGDA (SEQ ID NO:18) and QERAIIRQVEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:19).
12. (original): A pharmaceutical, veterinary or agricultural/horticultural composition which comprises the compound of claim 1 along with a suitable excipient.
- 13-19. (canceled)

20. (withdrawn): A method to treat viral infection in a plant or animal subject which method comprises administering to said subject an antivirally effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

21. (withdrawn): The method of claim 20 wherein said method further comprises administering at least one additional antiviral agent.

22. (withdrawn): The method of claim 21 wherein said administering of the compound and said at least one additional antiviral agent is substantially simultaneous.

23. (withdrawn): The method of claim 21 wherein said administering of the compound of claim 1 and said at least one antiviral compound is sequential.

24. (withdrawn): The method of claim 21 wherein said additional antiviral compound is I-RNA.

25-35. (canceled)